

Message Text

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - S U B J & R E F I N F O O M I T T E D

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SA

SUBJECT: CORRUPTION IN SAUDIA ARABIA: NORTHROP

REF: JIDDA 3940; STATE 129754

FOR AKINS FROM DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARYJENKINS

I THOUGHT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING REPORT FOR
BACKGROUND PURPOSES ON THE CHURCH AND PARALLEL HOUSE HEAR-
INGS ON MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS:

SENATOR CHURCH: MULTINATIONAL CORP. SCANDAL - CHURCH'S
CHIEF OF STAFF LEVINSON CONFIRMED TO US MAY 23 THAT NORTH-
ROP EXECUTIVES WILL BE CALLED TO TESTIFY ON JUNE 9 AND 10
TO DISCUSS ILLEGAL POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE MIDDLE
EAST (APPARENTLY FOCUSING ON SAUDI ARABIA), LATIN AMERICA
AND "POSSIBLY SOME WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES". LEVINSON
SAID EXECUTIVE BRANCH WITNESSES WOULD SUBSEQUENTLY BE
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CALLED ON JUNE 23 AND THEY WILL LOOK FOR REPRESENTATIVES

FROM BOTH DOD AND STATE. HE SAID GULF GAVE US A PLATFORM AND NORTHROP WILL NOW TOP IT ALL OFF WITH EQUALLY DRAMATIC ADMISSIONS. THE COMMITTEE, ACCORDING TO LEVINSON, WILL HAVE DRAFT LEGISLATION READY AND SEEK EXECUTIVE BRANCH REACTIONS TO IT BY MID-JUNE. AT LEAST, HE SAID, YOU WILL HAVE TIME TO

DEVELOP REACTIONS TO THIS LEGISLATION PRIOR TO YOUR APPEARANCE ON JUNE 23. HE CONCLUDED THAT IT IS THEIR INTENTION TO WRAP UP THE ENTIRE SUBJECT BY THE END OF JUNE.

LEVINSON LEFT THE IMPRESSION THAT THE COMMITTEE IS STILL CONSIDERING THE DESIRABILITY OF DOMESTIC US LEGISLATION OUTLAWING US CORPORATIONS MAKING POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, REGARDLESS OF THE LOCAL LAWS OF THOSE LANDS.

MEANWHILE, IN THE HOUSE A PARALLEL SET OF HEARINGS HAS BEEN INITIATED BY THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE HIRC UNDER CHAIRMAN NIX. THEY HAVE CALLED FOR A STATE DEPARTMENT WITNESS ON JUNE 5 TO PRESENT A GENERAL POLICY STATEMENT SIMILAR TO THAT WHICH ROBINSON PRESENTED BEFORE CHURCH. OPIC CHAIRMAN MAYS HAS ALSO BEEN CALLED TO TESTIFY ON OPIC POLICY TOWARD MULTINATIONAL PRACTICES. NIX PLANS TO FOLLOW WITH SEC, IRS AND JUSTICE WITNESSES LATER IN THE MONTH. HE DOES NOT PLAN TO CALL REPRESENTATIVES OF GULF, NORTHROP, OR OTHER MULTINATIONALS. END TEXT OF BACKGROUND MESSAGE. KISSINGER

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